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ABAG services to member jurisdictions

This report was prepared at the request of ABAG's Work Program & Coordination
Committee:

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What are ABAG's "services"?

ABAG's main job is to plan for the whole Bay Area. Most people know that. But what many of them don't know is that we give a lot of individual help to our member governments.

It's true that since we're largely paid to think on a regional scale (in fact the bulk of local dues goes to match Federal money for that purpose), we can't give all the attention to local assistance that, frankly, we'd like to. But we are able to do more than many member governments realize.

For example last year we gave some kind of help to almost every member government. In 1975 the Association...

- Reviewed applications for 1010 Federal grants amounting to \$576,000,000 in Federal funds for the Bay Area.
- Helped, on request, seventy-nine member governments prepare Federal grant applications.
- Gave sixty-seven member governments assistance and information to help improve their own programs.
- Answered data requests from thirty member governments, in addition to data requests from numerous business and citizen groups.
- Held eighteen conferences in locations throughout the nine counties on topics ranging from land use legislation to senior citizen needs.

The following pages are intended to give you an idea of the assistance we gave to your community and all the other local governments in the Bay Area.

**ABAG's
review of
grants and projects
provides:**

- Comments on applications for Federal assistance as required by the A-95 Areawide Clearinghouse designation.*
- Notification to members of local applications for more than 180 Federal assistance programs.
- A new computer system to cut costs and speed up information flow on A-95 notifications. Now members can choose just the types of applications of which they wish to be notified.
- Help to individual member governments in preparing grant applications. Additionally, last year ABAG established application review procedures that assisted member governments prepare Community Development Block Grant applications and get them approved by HUD.*
- Clearance for local governments to apply for State Park Bond Funds.*
- Notification to local governments of draft environmental impact reports. ABAG prepares comments on major DEIRs.
- Distribution to cities and counties, upon request, of State plans for local review and comment.*
- Consideration of major new development projects -- on request by a member government -- such as the reviews of the proposed new town in the Livermore-Amador Valley and the San Bruno Mountain development.

*See summary charts.

In housing and
urban
development
ABAG provides:

- Special assistance to member governments in preparing applications for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and Housing Assistance Plans.*
- Housing and community development data, on request, to meet individual needs for CDBG and related housing program requirements.*
- Innovative housing program assistance including, for example:
 - a. A report prepared by ABAG for its members on proven housing conservation techniques for local governments (now being given nationwide distribution by HUD).
 - b. A Housing Conservation Plan being developed by the City of El Cerrito with ABAG staff support.
 - c. Individual consultation to member governments.
- Distribution to Bay Area governments of the Housing Register, listing current applications of possible housing developments using HUD's FHA Mortgage Insurance or other Federal housing programs.*
- Advice to member governments in establishing cost/revenue analysis systems. A model system is being completed by the City of Fairfield and ABAG under a HUD grant.
- Technical information and assistance to member governments faced with questions or problems of urbanization.*

*See summary charts.

In human services ABAG provides:

- A Capacity Building Program.*

Alameda County and the City of Hayward (with ABAG, the County Supervisors Association of California, and the League of California Cities) are part of an HEW-supported pilot effort to bring about more efficient and effective human services programs by local governments.

- a. In Alameda County, ABAG assisted the Human Services Council Project in services inventories and a survey of data resources.
- b. In the City of Hayward, ABAG staff assisted with the city's social needs assessment program.
- c. ABAG placed volunteer graduate student interns in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties' human services programs.

- Technical assistance and consultation on human services programs to member governments on request.

- Round table manpower seminars to resolve problems and provide staff training for city and county CETA prime sponsors and regulatory State and Federal agencies. The format developed by ABAG is a prototype that may be copied nationwide by the Federal Department of Labor.*

- Assistance to Criminal Justice Planning Boards through a roster of programs for adult offenders and provision of data and population projections.*

- Coordination of Emergency Medical Services throughout all nine counties. County coordinators in six counties are funded directly through an HEW grant to ABAG.*

- A model system for counties to use in data collection and evaluation of Emergency Medical Services.

*See summary charts.

In environmental management ABAG provides:

- Solid waste information and technical assistance for State-mandated (SB 5) county solid waste management plans, as well as liaison and comment to the State Solid Waste Management Board. ABAG has served on technical advisory committees for three counties as well as commenting on specific solid waste projects.*
- Help to the Bay Delta Solid Waste Program in securing funding. That support is continuing to ensure that State programs meet the needs of Bay Area local governments.*
- A method making existing earth science information -- including that related to earthquakes and floods -- more useful for local government land use decisions. A recently completed land capability study enables complicated geological information to be understood in terms of likely development costs to the owner and to the community. ABAG also provides assistance to member governments in reviews of geologic aspects of Environmental Impact Reports.*
- Assistance to member governments to qualify for wastewater treatment facilities grants by providing necessary, but previously unavailable, population data for special areas. Assistance is also provided to member governments in developing improved air and water quality policies for their general plans.*
- Assistance to local governments in a range of environmental management issues including: help in preparing State-mandated seismic safety elements for general plans and help in identifying possible areas of critical environmental concern based on an ABAG study now under policy review. Such areas include land for resources production and protection, public health and safety, and recreation and amenity value.*
- Identification of the Bay Area's disaster preparedness needs through a grant from the Federal Defense Civil Preparedness Agency. ABAG has developed a system for local governments to evaluate risks from major natural or human-caused hazards.
- Assistance to member governments who need forestry policies and programs. This help includes data, access to resource information, and technical aid in coordinating land use management planning for forests.

*See summary charts.

In community management assistance ABAG provides:

- A review of Federal expenditures in each governmental unit in the Bay Area. The report, done at the request of the Contra Costa Mayors' Conference, has been distributed to all members. ABAG staff has assisted members in interpreting the data.*
- Graduate student interns for a variety of local governments' planning projects (such as help with updating general plans and developing city budgets) under a special HUD grant.*
- Information, now being compiled, on the level of General Revenue Sharing funds available to Bay Area local governments and the impact on local taxes if General Revenue Sharing is discontinued.
- The ABAG Legislative Digest, analyzing proposed legislation of particular concern to regional and local planning. County and city managers and administrators and planning directors of member jurisdictions receive the Digest while the Legislature is in session. ABAG staff responds to requests for information on legislation from members.*

*See summary charts.

ABAG

technical support provides:

- Population figures, including estimates, socioeconomic statistics, and detailed analysis and tabulation from the 1970 Census, on request.*
- Existing housing data compiled from ABAG and Census studies of Bay Area housing.*
- Data on employment, unemployment, and income from a variety of sources. ABAG is now preparing a survey of vacant industrial land and a new series of Bay Area employment projections (available this summer).*
- A wide range of base maps of the Bay Area, including both natural features and urban development. Our legislative districts map was ordered by many jurisdictions and legislators' offices.*
- Help to local governments setting up or updating the Dual Independent Map Encoding (DIME) system which relates address-identified data to geographic locations.*
- Growth Projections.*
 - a. Bay Area population, land use, and employment projections at a small-area level are provided in the "Series 2" projections.
 - b. Initial "Series 3" projections reflecting local governments' growth policies will be available in the fall of 1976.
 - c. Local governments' staffs participate in the preparation of ABAG projections through the Projections Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC).
- A regional library clearinghouse to help city and county libraries decide automation needs. Local governments' staffs participate through the Library Technical Advisory Committee (LTAC).

*See summary charts.

ABAG provides conferences, workshops and informational brochures:

"Bay Area Urban Growth: Yes or No? Up or Out?" - a two-day conference. Participants explored the city-centered growth concept as a solution to problems of air and water pollution, the energy crisis and housing needs.

"Housing the Elderly: Options for Smaller Cities" -- two day-long workshops cosponsored with the El Cerrito Committee on Aging. The first workshop was devoted to new construction and the second addressed the facts and fears of conserving older housing.

"Community Service as an Alternative to Jail" -- with the Alameda County Volunteer Bureau's Court Referral Program. ABAG provided a slide presentation for this event.

"The Economics of Today's Housing Market" -- a booklet cosponsored by the Midpeninsula Citizens for Fair Housing.

"New Ways to Work"-- a brochure mailed to nearly 4,000 Bay Area organizations on job-sharing as a means of combating unemployment and layoffs.

"Regional Problems -- Seniors' Solutions" -- workshops in each of the nine counties with the findings printed in county-by-county summaries.

"Shaping a Livable Urban Environment" -- a conference focusing on urban environmental issues, open space, parks and recreation.

"Planning Ahead for the 1980 Census" -- a conference that gave the U. S. Census Bureau suggestions about the content and handling of the 1980 Census reflecting Bay Area local government concerns.

"Potential Uses of the Census DIME System" -- a workshop for cities and counties.

"Health Manpower in the Bay Area -- Problems and Directions" -- a conference for health planners.

Which members did we assist last year?

The charts which follow summarize the services most frequently provided to our member governments during 1975.

Summary of services to members in Alameda County, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in Contra Costa County, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in Marin County, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in Napa and San Francisco Counties, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in San Mateo County, 1975

| | REVIEW OF GRANTS AND PROJECTS | | | | HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT | | | | HUMAN SERVICES | | | | ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES | | | | COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE | | | | TECHNICAL SUPPORT | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| | Review of Federal grants | Help in grant preparation | Review State park bond applications | State plans distributed for review | Assistance with: Community development applications and housing plans | Housing Register | Information & assistance on urban problems. | Capacity building | CETA prime sponsors round tables | Help with criminal justice planning | Emergency medical services | Solid waste plans | Bay Delta Solid Waste Project | Earth science information | Air & water quality information | Environmental management assistance | Federal expenditures report | ABAG Legislative Digest | Census data & analysis | Existing housing data | Employment/income data | Base maps | DIME services | Projections |
| COUNTY | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | | * | * | | * | | | | * | | |
| ATHERTON | (Non member) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | | |
| BELMONT | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | | | | * | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| BRISBANE | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | | | | | | | * | * | | * | | | | | | |
| BURLINGAME | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| COLMA | (Non member) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DALY CITY | * | * | * | | * | * | * | | | | | | * | | * | * | | * | | | | | | |
| FOSTER CITY | * | * | | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| HALF MOON BAY | * | * | | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | * | * | | * | | | | | | |
| HILLSBOROUGH | (Non member) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MENO PARK | * | * | | | * | * | * | * | | | | * | * | | | * | * | * | | * | | | | |
| MILLBRAE | * | * | * | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| PACIFICA | * | * | | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | * | * | | * | | | | | | |
| PORTOLA VALLEY | * | * | | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| REDWOOD CITY | * | | | * | * | * | * | * | | | | * | | | | * | | * | | | * | | | |
| SAN BRUNO | * | * | * | | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | * | | | | |
| SAN CARLOS | * | * | * | | * | * | * | | | | | * | * | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| SAN MATEO | * | * | | * | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |
| SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO | * | * | | * | | * | * | * | | | | | | | * | * | | * | | | | | | |
| WOODSIDE | | | | | * | * | | | | | | * | | | | * | | * | | | | | | |

Summary of services to members in Santa Clara County, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in Solano County, 1975

[illegible]

Summary of services to members in Sonoma County, 1975

[illegible]



Selected summary of 1975 accomplishments



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- adopted the Regional Housing Element - Phase I, necessary for bringing HUD community development funds to local governments.
- refined the Open Space Element--now called the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. This work strengthens the ability of local governments to make decisions about environmentally sensitive lands.
- reviewed the proposed Las Positas new town in Alameda County, and concluded that the proposal was premature and in conflict with regional policies on environmental quality, balanced urban development and cooperative government action. The Executive Board also said that developments such as that proposed for Las Positas should occur in central parts of the region with existing--but unused--public service capacities.
- began a project to develop county-level management and regional coordination of emergency medical services such as ambulances, hospitals and public safety agencies.
- completed the major portion of a land capability study that will enable Bay Area jurisdictions to use geologic publications more effectively. The study developed a method to assess and reduce expected dollar costs of earth science phenomena such as earthquakes, flooding, slope stability and resource depletion.
- acted to automate its A-95 project review notification system, because of a number of programs now requiring ABAG review. During 1975, ABAG reviewed 1,010 grant applications totalling more than \$741 million and \$576 million in Federal funds.
- continued its extensive joint program with MTC, without which the Bay Area could not receive its substantial funds for transportation projects.
- designated by the State Water Resources Control Board to receive a \$4.3 million EPA grant for planning under s. 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. The program will bring together the separate and often conflicting mandates of single-purpose regional agencies in air, water and solid waste.